

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1550
ANSWERED ON 01.08.2025

IDENTIFICATION OF OLD RAILWAY BRIDGES FOR REPAIR

1550 DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has identified old railway bridges in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu, which are in dilapidated condition and if so, the details of the repair work undertaken during each of the last five years;
- (b) the details of number of railway bridges that collapsed in last five years till date;
- (c) whether there has been a delay in sanctioning and completion of sanctioned bridge works resulting in risk of bridge collapse, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to repair all the old railway bridges across the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): As on 01.04.2025, there are 1,68,845 number of Railway Bridges on Indian Railways' Network of varying ages. There is an established system of inspection of railway bridges on Indian Railways. All the railway bridges are inspected twice a year, one before the onset of monsoon and one detailed inspection after the monsoon. In addition, certain railway bridges are also inspected more frequently depending upon their condition, Repair / strengthening / rehabilitation / rebuilding of railway bridges is a continuous process and is undertaken whenever so warranted by their physical condition as ascertained during these inspections and not on the basis of age.

The information on railway bridges is maintained zone-wise. Tamil Nadu is covered under Southern Railway, South Central Railway and South Western Railway.

During 2014-2025 (upto June'2025), 15,335 nos of railway bridges were repaired/ rehabilitated/ strengthened /rebuild in Indian Railway which include 2,165 nos of railway bridges in zonal railways covering Tamil Nadu.

As on 01.04.2025, 12,877 nos of railway bridges are sanctioned for repairs/ strengthening/ rehabilitation/rebuilding on Indian Railway which include 1,471 nos of railway bridges in zonal railways covering Tamil Nadu.

Completion of Bridge works depends on various factors like preparation of the schemes, approval of General Arrangement Drawing (GAD), availability of approach road, duration of working season in a year due to climatic conditions, availability of blocks, imposition of speed restrictions etc.
